wise if *any* soldier hath run away from his captain and sold or pawned his armour and furniture, it shall be seized and the party with whom it is found committed to prison

Sth March. UNDUTIFUL GENTLEMEN

Some of the inhabitants of Middlesex, divers of them gentlemen of good calling, and some being her Majesty's servants, very wilfully refuse to bear their contribution in the levy of sums of money for the setting forth of soldiers and other public services, so that oftentimes for the expedition of the service the Justices are themselves constrained to disburse money for armour, weapons, and other provisions, whereof some are not yet satisfied for money disbursed three years since The Council have instructed the Justices to will and require these persons, of what quality and sort soever, to contribute the sums demanded of them (excepting only the ordinary yeomen and grooms of her Majesty's Chambers) If by this gentle disposition they be not drawn to do that which in all duty and good respects they ought to do, their names to be sent to the Council that their perverse disposition may be made known to her Majesty

<)th March A SPANISH PRISONER'S ACCOUNT OF inr STATE OF ENGLAND

A certain Spanish prisoner that was released about a month since hath declared that many of all conditions, men and women, assured him of their good wishes for the success of the Spanish in England, and their zeal for the Catholic faith. If they do not openly avow their sympathy it is that they may not lose homes and possessions , others confess themselves Catholics, and, though they have suffered many punishments, yet openly say that they will remain firm and die in the

faith Many complaints, saith he, are made of the large number of declared Catholics, and the Queen is petitioned to have them punished, but she hath ordered that such complaints should not be made against them, and that they shall be allowed to live freely as they wished There is great fear of the galleys and their commander Sir Francis Drake is very unpopular, the people of quality saying that he is but of mean origin to have risen so high, the common people regarding him as the cause of the wars , but the Queen esteemeth him highly They cannot bear the name of